

In the CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A contoured infant nursing pad comprising:

a base having a first periphery, a second periphery, a third periphery, and a fourth periphery;

~~multiple retaining walls coupled to the base for retaining an infant on the base;~~

a back wall coupled to the base adjacent the first periphery for retaining the infant on the base;

a first side wall coupled to the base adjacent the second periphery for retaining the infant on the base;

a second side wall coupled to the base adjacent the third periphery for retaining the infant on the base;

a front safety ridge coupled to the base adjacent the fourth periphery for retaining the infant in an optimal nursing position and for preventing a nursing person from rolling onto the infant, wherein the fourth periphery is opposite the first periphery, the front safety ridge comprising:

a first edge on a first side of the front safety ridge;

a second edge on a second side of the front safety ridge;

a top of the front safety ridge, the top located between the first edge and the second edge; and

a curved transition from the top of the front safety ridge to the base toward the back wall; ~~coupled to the base for retaining the infant in an optimal nursing position and for preventing a mother from rolling onto the infant; and~~

wherein the infant reclined between the front safety ridge and the back wall is retained by the front safety ridge and the back wall;

a first opening along the fourth periphery between the first edge of the front safety ridge and the first side wall;

a first breast shelf located on the base adjacent the first opening;

wherein the first breast shelf is inclined downward toward the back wall for aligning the infant's mouth for breastfeeding;

a second opening along the fourth periphery between the second edge of the front safety ridge and the second side wall; and

a second breast shelf located on the base adjacent the second opening;

wherein the second breast shelf is inclined downward toward the back wall for aligning the infant's mouth for breastfeeding;

~~a first and second breast shelf located on the base, each breast shelf on opposite sides of the front retaining wall and located at an opening in the base perimeter between the front safety ridge and one of the multiple retaining walls;~~

wherein an the infant placed on the base between the back wall, first side wall, second side wall and front safety ridge with the infant's head placed on the first breast shelf and facing the first opening and facing the breast shelf can access a breast of the nursing person placed on the first breast shelf through the first opening on the breast shelf; and

wherein the infant placed on the base between the back wall, first side wall, second side wall and front safety ridge with the infant's head placed on the second breast shelf and facing the second opening can access the breast of the nursing person placed on the second breast shelf through the second opening.

2. (Currently amended) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 1 further comprising:

a first recess in the base adjacent to each the first breast shelf and extending towards the back wall for accommodating in the first recess a first an infant's shoulder and a first upper arm of the infant when the infant's head is placed on the first breast shelf; and

a second recess in the base adjacent to the second breast shelf and extending the back wall for accommodating in the second recess a second shoulder and a second upper arm of the infant when the infant's head is placed on the second breast shelf.

3. (Currently amended) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 2 1 wherein:

the first breast shelf is inclined downward toward the first side wall for aligning the infant's mouth for breastfeeding; and

the second breast shelf is inclined downward from the second edge to the second side wall for aligning the infant's mouth for breastfeeding

~~the base further comprises a slightly inclined infant headrest adjacent to the breast shelf for aligning an infant's mouth toward the breast shelf.~~

4. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 1 wherein the front safety ridge comprises a curved transition from a top of the front safety ridge to the base for accommodating an infant's belly curvature.

5. (Original) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 1 wherein the base is rectangular.

6. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 5 wherein the multiple retaining walls comprise a back support retaining wall on the rectangular base opposite the front safety ridge for keeping the infant from rolling backward off the base.

7. (Currently amended) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 6 1 wherein: ~~the multiple retaining walls further comprise a~~

the first side retaining wall is coupled to the back support retaining wall; and

the a second side retaining wall is coupled to the back support retaining wall, ~~the first and second side wall for retaining the infant on the base.~~

8. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 5 wherein the front safety ridge comprises a curved transition from a top of the front safety ridge to the base for accommodating an infant's belly curvature.

9. (Currently amended) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 1 wherein:

the base comprises a flexible elastic material;

the multiple retaining walls back wall, the first side wall, and the second side wall each comprise the flexible elastic material; and

the front safety ridge comprises the flexible elastic material.

10. (Original) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 9 wherein the flexible elastic material comprises polyurethane foam.

11. (Original) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 1 further comprising a cover over the contoured infant nursing pad for providing comfort and facilitating cleaning.

12. (Currently amended) The contoured infant nursing pad

of claim 11 wherein the cover further comprises

a plurality of pockets on the cover for holding items within easy reach of the nursing person ~~a mother~~ using the contoured infant nursing pad.

13. (Currently amended) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 12 wherein the ~~cover further comprises a plurality of~~ plurality of pockets on the cover are located adjacent to the back ~~support retaining~~ wall for holding items within easy reach of the nursing person ~~a mother~~ using the contoured infant nursing pad.

14. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 12 wherein the cover further comprises a plurality of pockets on the cover adjacent to an outer side of at least one of the side retaining walls for holding items within easy reach of a mother using the contoured infant nursing pad.

15. (Cancelled) A contoured infant nursing pad comprising:

a rectangular base;

a front safety ridge coupled to the rectangular base for retaining the infant in an optimal nursing position and for preventing a mother from rolling onto the infant;

a back support retaining wall on the rectangular base opposite the front safety ridge for keeping the infant from rolling backward off the base;

a first side retaining wall coupled to the back support retaining wall for retaining the infant on the base;

a second side retaining wall opposite the first side retaining wall coupled to the back support retaining wall;

a first breast shelf located on the base, the first breast shelf located on a first side of the front safety ridge and located at an opening in the base perimeter between the

front safety ridge and the first side retaining wall;

a second breast shelf located on the base, the second breast shelf located on a second side of the front safety ridge and located at an opening in the base perimeter between the front safety ridge and the second side retaining wall;

wherein an infant placed on the base and facing the breast shelf can access a breast placed on the breast shelf.

16. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 15 further comprising:

a first recess in the base adjacent to the first breast shelf for accommodating an infant's shoulder and arm; and

a second recess in the base adjacent to the second breast shelf for accommodating an infant's shoulder and arm.

17. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 15 wherein the base further comprises a slightly inclined infant headrest adjacent to the breast shelf for aligning an infant's mouth toward the breast shelf.

18. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 15 wherein the base, front safety ridge, back support retaining wall, first side retaining wall, and second retaining wall comprise polyurethane foam.

19. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 15 further comprising:

a cover over the contoured infant nursing pad for providing comfort and facilitating cleaning; and

a plurality of pockets on the cover.

20. (Cancelled) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 15 wherein the front safety ridge comprises a curved transition from a top of the front safety ridge to the base for

accommodating an infant's belly curvature.

21. (New) A contoured infant nursing pad comprising:

- a base;
- a back wall coupled to the base for retaining an infant on the base;
- a front safety ridge coupled to the base for retaining the infant in an optimal nursing position and for preventing a nursing person from rolling onto the infant;
- wherein the front safety ridge and the back wall are coupled to the base for retaining the infant reclined between the front safety ridge and the back wall;
- a first breast shelf located on the base on a first side of the front safety ridge; and
- a second breast shelf located on the base on a second side of the front safety ridge;
- wherein the infant placed on the base between the back wall and the front safety ridge with the infant's head placed on the first breast shelf can access a breast of the nursing person placed on the first breast shelf; and
- wherein the infant placed on the base between the back wall and the front safety ridge with the infant's head placed on the second breast shelf can access the breast of the nursing person placed on the second breast shelf.

22. (New) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 21 further comprising:

- a first recess in the base adjacent to the first breast shelf and extending towards the back wall for accommodating in the first recess a first shoulder and a first upper arm of the infant when the infant's head is placed on the first breast shelf; and
- a second recess in the base adjacent to the second breast shelf and extending towards the back wall for accommodating in

the second recess a second shoulder and a second upper arm of the infant when the infant's head is placed on the second breast shelf.

23. (New) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 21 wherein:

the first breast shelf is inclined downward toward the back wall for aligning the infant's mouth for breastfeeding; and

the second breast shelf is inclined downward toward the back wall for aligning the infant's mouth for breastfeeding.

24. (New) The contoured infant nursing pad of claim 21 further comprising:

a cover over the contoured infant nursing pad for providing comfort and facilitating cleaning; and

a plurality of pockets on the cover for holding items within easy reach of the nursing person using the contoured infant nursing pad.